

Special Order - 074-03

**FOREST CAVES/MINES - PROHIBITED ENTRY
USDA – FOREST SERVICE
BLACK HILLS NATIONAL FOREST**

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(a), entry of the caves and mines described below is prohibited for the protection of:

- 1) Habitat for threatened, endangered, rare, or vanishing species of animals, 36 CFR 261.53(a), and
- 2) Public safety, 36 CFR 261.53(e).

Erskine Cave (closed October 1 through May 31)

T3N R6E Section 32, BHM

Meade County, South Dakota

A-Frame Mine (year-round closure)

T2N R3E Section 11, BHM

Lawrence County, South Dakota

Irish Gulch Mine (year-round closure)

T2N R3E Section 10, BHM

Lawrence County, South Dakota

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.51(e), the following are EXEMPT from this order:

- 1) Person(s) with a permit specifically authorizing this prohibited act.
- 2) Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.

Done at Custer, South Dakota, this 24th day of June, 2003.

/s/Robert Sprentall

ROBERT SPRENTALL

Acting Forest Supervisor

Violations of this prohibition are punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of not more than \$5,000 or both. *Title 16, United States Code, Section 551, Title 18, United States Code, Section 3571.*

JUSTIFICATION

To ensure that rare and sensitive bat species will not be disturbed during their period of hibernation and possible maternity and nursery activities.

REVIEWED BY: /s/ Tom Smith DATE: 5/1/03

(for) District Ranger

REVIEWED BY: /s/ Kenneth J. Boerman DATE: 5/16/03

District Law Enforcement Officer

REVIEWED BY: /s/ Lester L. Pinkerton DATE: 5/27/03

Supervisory LEO

REVIEWED BY: /s/ Frank Carroll DATE: 5/28/03

Public Information Officer

REVIEWED BY: /s/ David M. Thom DATE: 6/2/03

Forest Staff Officer